Nate Mantanona

Mr. Silva

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Period3

Final Essay Question4

The US was a powerhouse in a race to create a nuclear bomb. Scientists and physicists were able to create a nuclear explosion, capable of wiping out a city. When the US needed it the most Franklin D. Roosavelt tried to keep the United States Neutral. Our country’s reason was because the United States of America was just coming off and out of the Great Depression. F.D.R. had supported the Allies indirectly with types of finances that powered their militaries, countries including China and mainly Britain. Nazi Germany sought the transaction to be an act entering into the war. Japan soon engaged on the attack of Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941. Roosevelt called it the “date which will live in infamy”. One perception is that the war screwed the U.S. over economically but in actuality, World War II yanked the United States out of the Great Depression. Yes, nobody wants a war but it showed that we could ration on food, or ration on any household items to rebuild and help the country. Yes, the U.S. is currently in a debt of $15 trillion, but the United States is still the strongest mixed market economy on the face of the earth. World War II was not just current power and wealth but also the future of the countries who participated in the war’s fortune. For example, Germany was an all-powerful Socialist Country led by a cruel dictator by the name of Adolf Hitler. After the U.S. bombed Japan twice, every Axis Power retreated and the U.S. won. World War II revolutionized the type of warfare we use in today’s society, it established civil rights, and created a sturdy foreign policy.

United States plan was to use whatever resources they had and make good of it. The two urgent resources we had was a firm government and a well-supplied military. The Japanese-American enlisted men fought mainly in Europe. For the African-Americans, the war “offered an opportunity to get out of the cycle of crushing rural poverty.” It is very self-explanatory. The war gave African Americans money. Unfortunately, civil rights were not a fully established system, so the African American enlistees were created in segregated “infantry regiments and assigned white commanders to them.” There was an instance when an African American seaman “grabbed an unmanned anti-aircraft machinegun and kept firing until his ammunition ran out”, while the U.S.S. Arizona was sinking. Not long after he ran out of ammunition, the sailor finally abandoned ship. The Navy refused to identify the colored sailor for months but in time gave the name to Negro newspapers. The hero’s name was Dorie Miler and he was awarded a medal.

When other think of women in war they think that they only took place in the house doing household things. This stereotype is especially directed toward middle and upper social classes. Prior World War II, twelve million women worked. This number increased by a little over 50% during the war meaning that the female workforce increased from twelve million to approximately eighteen million workers. Millions of men and women were already in the military, so manual labor was both short in the rural and urban side. The women that were left drove tractors and trucks as their list of chores grew. As said by Winifred “Freddie” Oglesby, “Everybody was working in munitions factories,” and “making good money. Women took a lot of men’s jobs in town.” By 1942, two million women worked difficult and dangerous industrial jobs in U.S. defense plants. Many women moved from the farm to the cities, again creating a labor shortage within the agriculture division. At the “Martin Bomber Plant”, 40% of the workforces were women. This meant that out of the thirteen thousand workers, almost five thousand of them were females. Most new employees were inexperienced in airplane mechanics, but the women’s lack of training unexpectedly manageable. Post-war, created a window of opportunity through the display of agencies wanting women to work for them. This goes said because before the war started, women were not viewed as people who can sustain the hardships of being in the workforce. This was an unintelligent assumption. World War II created the concept of women’s liberty and the idea of women suffrage. This tells us that women played a significant role in World War II. They helped in the military and also in industrial and agricultural businesses as well.

The Government of Germany officially declared war against the United States, four days after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor. Franklin D. Roosevelt’s message addressed Congress that Germany’s intentions were to enslave the world and the United States included, “The forces endeavoring to enslave the entire world now are moving toward this hemisphere.” F.D.R. believed that the United States has never faced “a greater challenge to life, liberty and civilization.” Roosevelt stated that “Delay invites great danger”, meaning that the longer they wait the more dangerous it is for his country. “Rapid and united effort by all of the peoples…over the forces of savagery and of barbarism”, means that the Power, for example the Axis or Allies, which sustains through the war with unity will prevail to keep their freedom though justice, righteousness and not savagery or barbarism. Franklin D. Roosevelt requested that Congress recognize a state of war between the United States and Germany and Italy as well concludes the message. However, the United States declared that a state of war existed between the Government of Germany and not the people of Germany. On the other hand, the Government of Germany declared war against the government AND the people of the United States. With that said, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress approved the declaring of the state of war. This enabled Franklin D. Roosevelt to employ naval and military forces of the government to carry on war against the Government of Germany. The Senate and House of Representatives allowed the President to use all of the country’s resources to fulfill “a successful victory.”

On February 23rd, 1942, the United States and the United Kingdom settled in a Preliminary Agreement of what is generally known throughout the world as a Foreign Policy. This agreement declared that, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland along with the United States of America, would participate and engage in a “cooperative undertaking” to go throughout with peace and justice to themselves and all nations. The agreement explains that when either country is in need, the other country will and can only do so much to aid each other. It also states that, like in any other agreement, all terms, benefits, and conditions must be reciprocal to “promote the establishment and maintenance of world peace. Each article explains each country’s contributions for example “Article I- The Government of the United States of America will continue to supply the Government of the United Kingdom with such defense articles, defense services, and defense information as the President shall authorize to be transferred or provided.” Or “Article II- The Government of the United Kingdom will continue to contribute to the defense of the United States of America and the strengthening thereof and will provide such articles, services, facilities or information as it may be in a position to supply.” There are eight articles listing each action that both countries must abide by mutually. During this time of course, World War II was at large and no conversation of economic conditions were brought up into this agreement. The United States of America and the United Kingdom hoped to begin those conversations not just between themselves but also like-minded Governments. Cordell Hull believes that the Allies are “on the verge of great events.” He says that the military is a product of the government. The government puts our military on a pedestal that makes the people of the United States of America trust them. Hull says that we show full confidence in our military and that they are a big reason of American’s liberation. As the Nazis are defeated, they will undoubtedly leave the countries they have conquered, in a “legacy of confusion.” “It is essential that we and our Allies establish the controls necessary to bring order out of this chaos as rapidly as possible and do everything possible to prevent its spread to the German-Occupied countries of Eastern and Western Europe while they are in the throes of re-establishing government and repairing the most brutal ravages of the war.” This means that the United States of America and the rest of the Allies should control and prevent the spread of Nazi powers to the already-broken-down Germany. The reason is because they are already in the rebuilding stage of their country because it suffered the most economically and structurally. “Stability and order do not and cannot mean reaction. Order there must be to avoid chaos. But it must be achieved in a manner which will give full scope to men and women who look forward, men and women who will end fascism and all its works and create the institutions of a free and democratic way of life.” This means that the circumstances given, Germany in its repair-state, must be handled with precaution and with somewhat of gentleness. If this were to happen, Germany would be a free and democratic country and live that way without prior chaos.

World War II solidified the U.S. as a powerhouse force on an international and national stance. The United States of America revolutionized warfare by using nuclear technology. Nuclear warfare changed the perspective of the entire world on how a war can suddenly be ended with tons of reactive Uranium. The United States finally implemented a limited amount of Civil Rights by utilizing minorities and women into workforces. The reform came through Foreign Policy as it limited trades and it gave opposing countries stability in which and how they can interact with each other.